LESSON 5   BUILDINGS AND MORE

Overview
A picture says a thousand words. Or is it, a building says a thousand words? Students take on the persona of two buildings in this creative writing assignment.

Objective
Students will be able to:
1. Compose narratives of events from the perspective of buildings in the community.
2. Integrate the creative writing process into the study of the community.

Procedure
Students complete the “Talking Buildings” worksheet on page 103 from Walk Around the Block Activity Guide from Center for Understanding the Built Environment (CUBE).

Teaching Tips - Options for the worksheet:
1. Using pictures the students have taken, students select two buildings, and write down a conversation the two buildings might have with each other.
2. Students describe two buildings that they are acquainted with prior to completing the “Talking Buildings” worksheet. By describing the buildings, the teacher is made aware of the buildings' design and location. This is definitely helpful when you are grading the assignment.
3. If your classroom window(s) provide a view of the community, students may choose two of the buildings in their visual landscape to converse with each other.

Assessment
Points are given for complete conversations. It is suggested that you determine the minimum length of the assignment. Do not allow students to simply fill in the speech bubbles on the “Talking Buildings” worksheet.

Duration
One 50 minute class period.

Materials
Walk Around the Block Activity Guide from Center for Understanding the Built Environment (CUBE).
Website: www.cubekc.org
Tel: 1-913-262-0691.

Key Vocabulary
narrative, perspective, visual landscape.

Subjects
Language Arts
Content Standards Addressed

Language Arts

Standard 2. Meaning and Communication
♦ All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.

Standard 6. Voice
♦ All students will learn to communicate information accurately and effectively and demonstrate their expressive abilities by creating oral, written, and visual texts that enlighten and engage an audience.